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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/052,473	01/18/2002	George Baerveldt	UCI002.001A	7905
7590	02/28/2005		EXAMINER	
JAMES M. HESLIN, ESQ., TOWNSEND & TOWNSEND & CREW LLP 379 LYTTON AVENUE 2ND FLOOR PALO ALTO, CA 94301			FARAH, AHMED M	
		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
		3739		
DATE MAILED: 02/28/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/052,473	BAERVELDT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ahmed M Farah	3739	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 October 2004.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-117 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-18, 20-36, and 38-117 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 19 and 37 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 7/30/03; April 15 and 26 /2002

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: .

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

Applicant's election without traverse of invention I, Species B, sub-species *ix*, in the reply filed on October 25, 2005 is acknowledged.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Rockley et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,013,049.

Rockley et al. disclose a probe for removing ocular tissue, comprising: a probe tip configured to access ocular tissue; an aspiration port on the probe tip; and a tissue ablator on the probe tip, the tissue ablator configured to ablate ocular tissue.

Claims 19 and 37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kagawa et al U.S. Patent No. 5,163,433.

Kagawa et al. disclose an ultrasonic type treatment apparatus for the resection of a living tissue, the apparatus comprising a probe tip configured to access body tissue;

an aspiration port on the probe; and a tissue ablating ultrasonic needle. Their ablative needle is small enough to access the trabecular meshwork as presently claimed.

As to claim 37, they teach that the ultrasonic needle "is composed of a laminated structure of piezoelectric elements (for example PZT) 10a and electrodes 10b. " The examiner treats elements 10a and 10b of the ablative element as a bipolar electrode. Therefore, the device of Kagawa et al. anticipates the claims as recited.

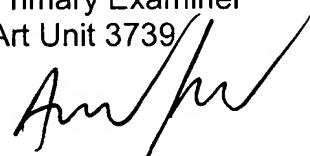
Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ahmed M Farah whose telephone number is (571) 272-4765. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thur. 9:30 AM-7:30 PM, and 9:30 AM - 6:30 PM on every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Linda C.M DVorak can be reached on (571) 272-4764. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-0758.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ahmed M Farah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3739



January 24, 2005.